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P.O. 33-1 Jordan River

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

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INFO RUQMVL/AMEMBASSY TELAVIV
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DEPTEL 4946, EMBTELS 4391 AND 4481, EMBAIR 1769

JORDAN WATERS

RMR

WE REVIEWED CLOSE PARAPHRASE OF ISRAELI PAPER WITH QUAI'S ISRAEL-JORDAN DESKOFF TWENTYSIX, AND INQUIRED WITHOUT REVEALING SOURCE WHETHER IT ACCURATELY STATED FRENCH POSITION ON PROBLEM. QUAIOFF COMMENTED AS FOLLOWS:

1. PARAS ONE TWO AND THREE ARE ESSENTIALLY STATEMENTS OF APPLICABLE INTERNATIONAL LAW AND AS SUCH FULLY REFLECT FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS.
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PAGE TWO RUFHPA 1400 C O N F I D E N T I A L

2. RE PARA THREE IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE NECESSARY AGREEMENT OF OTHER RIPARIANS MAY BE TACIT OR INFORMAL AND THAT LEGITIMACY OF DIVERSION MUST BE BASED ON ESTABLISHED LOCAL NEEDS. LATTER CONCEPT IMPLICIT IN "REASONABLE USE" WORDING.

3. PARA FOUR IS ACCURATE REFLECTION FRENCH VIEW IN SUBSTANCE IF NOT FORM.

FRENCH CONSIDER JOHNSTON UNIFIED PLAN AS BEST AND MOST EQUITABLE PORPOSAL PUT FORTH TO DATE ON USES JORDAN RIVER SYSTEM'S HYDROLOGICAL RESOURCES BY RIPARIANS. HOWEVER UNIFIED PLAN WAS NOT, REPEAT NOT, ADOPTED BY RIPARIANS AND THEREFORE

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CANNOT BE MADE BASIS FOR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS BINDING UPON THEM. UNIFIED PLAN RATHER CONSTITUTES GENERAL GUIDE FOR WATER ALLOCATIONS AMONG RIPARIANS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR NEEDS. ISRAELIS TEND PRESENT UNIFIED PLAN AS ACCEPTED FACT GIVING THEM RIGHTS WHICH MAY NOT BE QUESTIONED. FRENCH CONSIDER PLAN AS INDICATING LIMITS OF WHAT IS "TECHNICALLY FEASIBLE, EQUITABLY DESIRABLE AND ECONOMICALLY USEFUL".

POINTS OTHERWISE COVER FRENCH POSITION. GP-3. BOHLEN
BT
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